

Adult Disability Payment



Who we are

Age Scotland is the national charity for older people. We work to improve the lives of everyone over the age of 50 so that they can love later life.

Our vision is a Scotland where everyone can love later life.

Our mission is to inspire, involve and empower older people in Scotland, and influence others, so that people can make the most of later life.

Our three strategic aims are to:



Help older people to be as well as they can be



Promote a positive view of ageing and later life



Tackle loneliness and isolation

How we can help

We know that growing older doesn't come with a manual. Later life can bring changes and opportunities to your life and you may need to know about rights, organisations and services which are unfamiliar to you.

That's why we provide free information and advice to help you on a range of topics including benefits and entitlements, social care, legal issues such as Power of Attorney, housing and much more. All of our guides are available to download for free from our website, or you can contact our helpline team to have copies posted to you for free.

The Age Scotland **helpline** is a free, confidential phone service for older people, their carers and families in Scotland looking for information and advice.

Later life can bring times when you just need someone to talk to. Our **friendship line** is part of our wider helpline and older people can call us for a chat. We're here to listen, provide friendship and offer support.

For information, advice and friendship



Call us free on: 0800 12 44 222
(Monday – Friday, 9am - 5pm)



Visit agescotland.org.uk to find out more.



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What is Adult Disability Payment?

Adult Disability Payment is a new payment from Social Security Scotland to help with the extra cost of living with a disability or health condition. It replaces Personal Independence Payment and Disability Living Allowance for people who:

- live in Scotland
- are over 16 and under State Pension age (currently 66 for men and women)
- have difficulty or need help with daily living activities or getting around because of a health condition or disability
- have had the difficulties for at least 3 months, and expect them to continue for at least another 9 months
- have been present in Great Britain for at least 26 of the last 52 weeks

You don't need to have a diagnosis to claim Adult Disability Payment. It can be claimed for physical and mental health conditions.

Adult Disability Payment isn't means-tested, so you don't have to answer lots of questions about your income and savings. It doesn't matter if you are employed, self-employed or not currently working. It isn't taxable and won't reduce any other benefits you receive.



When can I apply?

There are three Adult Disability Payment pilots, for new claims only:

Pilot 1: from 21 March 2022

Council areas: Perth and Kinross, Dundee, Western Isles

Pilot 2: from 20 June 2022

Health boards: Tayside, Western Isles, Lanarkshire

Council areas: North Lanarkshire, South Lanarkshire

Pilot 3: from 25 July 2022

Health boards: Ayrshire and Arran, Fife, Grampian

Council areas: Fife, North Ayrshire, Aberdeen City, Aberdeenshire, East Ayrshire, South Ayrshire, Moray

From 29 August 2022, new claims can be made from people living in the rest of Scotland.



Transfer of existing claims

If you live in Scotland and are already claiming Personal Independence Payment or Disability Living Allowance, you will be transferred over to Adult Disability Payment in due course.

Transfers will begin in summer 2022. Social Security Scotland estimate it will take around 3 years to transfer all existing claims. The transfer will be automatic; you will not need to complete a new application in order to be transferred over.

Certain people will be transferred over as soon as possible, for example:

- claimants who have a terminal illness
- claimants whose awards are due to be reviewed or end shortly
- claimants who report a change of circumstances that may affect the amount of award they receive

If you are transferred to Adult Disability Payment because your existing award is due to be reviewed or end shortly, you won't need to make a new application, but a review date will be set for soon after the transfer.

You will receive letters from Social Security Scotland and the Department for Work and Pensions both when your award is going to be transferred, and when the transfer is completed.

There will be no break in your payments when your award is transferred.



Adult Disability Payment and State Pension age

New claims for Adult Disability Payment must be made before you reach State Pension age. However, if you are already receiving it when you reach State Pension age, your award can continue for as long as you continue to qualify. This may be particularly important if you have a mobility component in your Adult Disability Payment award, as the equivalent benefit for new claims over State Pension age, Attendance Allowance, does not include a mobility component.



How do I apply?

Once claims for Adult Disability Payment are open in your area, there will be several different ways you can apply.

By telephone

To apply by telephone, call Social Security Scotland on **0800 182 2222**. If English is not your first language, you can request an interpreter. Interpretation will be available in over 100 languages.

British Sign Language

If you are a British Sign Language user, you can contact Social Security Scotland using the ContactScotland video relay.

For more information, visit the **ContactScotland** website at **<https://contactscotland-bsl.org>**.

Text Relay

If you use a text relay service, you can contact Social Security Scotland by dialling **18008 +0300 244 4000**.



Online

To apply online, you will first need to register for a **MyAccount**. This is an account that lets you access a range of different public services online. You may already have a MyAccount if you have applied for Scottish benefits before, or interacted with other public bodies such as local councils, schools or the NHS online.

MyAccount is run by The Improvement Service, a national organisation providing support to local and national government. It is separate from the Scottish Government and Social Security Scotland.

For more information about **The Improvement Service**, visit **www.improvementservice.org.uk**.

To read more about MyAccount, and register for your account, at **<https://signin.mygovscot.org/home>**.

Once you have registered, you will be able to choose **Apply for Adult Disability Payment** from your dashboard page.

In person

Client Support Advisors

If you would like support to apply for Adult Disability Payment, you can make an appointment with a Client Support Advisor.

The advisor will be able to check your entitlement to Scottish benefits and help you to apply online. They can check your identity and add copies of your supporting documents to their computer systems. They can also give you advice about challenging Scottish benefit decisions and refer you to other local sources of help and support if needed.

Client Support Advisors will be able to carry out face-to-face appointments at community venues such as GP surgeries, or by telephone or video call. Where needed, they will also be able to visit you at home or in hospital for an appointment.

To make an appointment, call **Social Security Scotland** on **0800 182 2222**.



Advocacy

If you want or need help to apply for benefits with Social Security Scotland, you may be entitled to advocacy.

An advocate can support you to make the application, ensuring you know and understand your rights, and your questions are answered.

The advocacy service is a free, independent service provided by **VoiceAbility**. It is available to:

- people who have a disability and are making a benefit claim for themselves
- people who making a claim for a child with a disability
- either of the above who have ongoing interactions following a claim, for example if requestion a redetermination or appeal

If you would like to use the advocacy service, call Social Security Scotland on **0800 182 2222** and ask to be referred, call **VoiceAbility** directly on **0300 303 1660** or visit their website at **www.voiceability.org/support-and-help/support-to-access-benefits-in-scotland**.



Special rules for terminal illness

There are special rules for Adult Disability Payment applications if you have a terminal illness that is at an advanced stage.

A registered medical professional can complete a BASRiS (Benefits Assessment for Special Rules in Scotland) form for you. Using this form means you won't need to answer as many questions, and your application will be processed quickly.

There is no qualifying period if you are applying under the special rules, and your award will be at the higher rate, with no formal review date.

To be eligible to apply under the special rules, you must have

- an illness that is advanced and progressive, or with risk of sudden death, AND
- that is not amenable to curative treatment, or you have refused or declined treatment for any reason, AND
- that is leading to an increased need for additional care and support

The person completing the form must be acting in their professional capacity as a registered medical professional or registered nurse, and must be involved in your diagnosis, treatment or care.

The application form

The application form is in two parts. Part one is about you, and asks for information such as your name, address, date of birth and contact details. There are also questions about your nationality and residence status, your banking details and any communication needs you have.

When you have completed and submitted part one, you will then have 56 days to complete and submit part two. Any award of Adult Disability Payment will begin from the date you submitted part one.

If you are not able to complete part two before the end of the 56 days, you should contact **Social Security Scotland** on **0800 182 2222** for advice.

The daily living activities cover:

- preparing and cooking food
- taking nutrition
- managing therapies
- washing and bathing
- managing toilet needs
- dressing and undressing
- communicating verbally
- reading and understanding,
- engaging socially with other people
- making budgeting decisions

The mobility activities cover:

- planning and following journeys
- moving around

For each activity you will be asked questions about your ability to do it, the help or aids you need in order to do it and how the activity affects you.



How much will I get?

There are two parts to Adult Disability Payment, the Daily Living component and the Mobility Component.

Each component has a standard and enhanced rate.

The amount you get will depend on how much your condition affects your ability to carry out day-to-day activities, and how much it affects your ability to get around.

Rates from April 2022:

Daily Living Component

Enhanced rate: £92.40

Standard rate: £61.85

Mobility Component

Enhanced rate: £64.50

Standard rate: £24.45



What to include with your application

You should include documents that give information about your illnesses or disabilities, and the effect they have on your day-to-day life, for example:

- social care assessments
- medical reports, letters and certificates
- prescription lists
- test results
- letters from people who know you, such as social workers, carers and family members

Up to 30 pieces of supporting information can be uploaded via the online system, if you are completing the application online, however once source of supporting information from a professional involved in your care or diagnosis will usually be enough.

If you want to send documents by post, you can call **0800 182 2222** to request a pre-paid envelope.



Accessible Vehicles and Equipment (AVE) scheme

If you are awarded the higher rate of the mobility component, you can use the payment to lease a car, electric scooter or powered wheelchair under the Accessible Vehicles and Equipment Scheme.

The scheme is provided by Motability, the same charity that provides the scheme across the rest of the UK.

If you currently have a vehicle as part of a Personal Independence Payment or Disability Living Allowance award, your vehicle will be transferred over to the new scheme on a like-for-like contract.

Other Benefits

Receiving Adult Disability Payment may increase your entitlement to means-tested benefits or give you an entitlement you didn't have before.

If you start receiving Adult Disability Payments, your circumstances change or you haven't had a benefit check for a while, our friendly helpline advisers will be happy to carry out an up-to-date check.

To find out more or to request a check, call our helpline on

0800 12 44 222.

Care Assessments

If you have difficulty with day-to-day activities because of a health condition or disability, you may be entitled to practical help in addition to financial support.

You can request an assessment of your care needs by contacting the social work department of your local council. The assessment will usually happen in your home. The assessor will talk to you about how you carry out everyday tasks and ask about the help you currently have from friends, family or a carer. They will identify any services and support council can provide, for example:

- help with personal care
- equipment for daily living
- respite care
- other support

There is likely to be a waiting list, but assessments are prioritised according to how urgent the need is, so let the council know if you are struggling to manage.

Services that are classed as personal care and nursing care are free for those who are assessed as needing them. There are likely to be charges for other services such as housework or shopping.

For more information about help at home, see our **Care and Support at Home: assessment and funding** and **Care and Support at Home: practical help** guides.



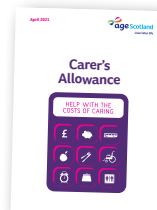


Carer's Allowance

If you spend 35 hours or more per week providing unpaid care for someone who receives Adult Disability Payment (or certain other disability-related benefits), you may be entitled to Carer's Allowance. The 35 hours can include time spent physically helping with day-to-day tasks like eating, bathing and dressing, and time spent keeping an eye on them to make sure they are safe and comfortable.

You can apply by telephone on **0800 731 0297**, or online at **www.gov.uk/carers-allowance/how-to-claim**.

The Carer's Allowance rules are complicated, and sometimes claiming it can reduce the benefits of the person you care for. For a free benefit check to make sure it is the best option for you both, and a copy of our **Carer's Allowance** guide, call our helpline on **0800 12 44 222**.



Blue Badge

If you receive the mobility component of Adult Disability Payment, and you are unable to walk or have substantial difficulty walking, you may be eligible for a Blue Badge.

A Blue Badge usually lets you park for free in on-street pay-and-display spaces, on single and double yellow lines and in on-street disabled parking bays, subject to parking safety regulations. Private car parks may charge a fee or limit the time you are allowed to park for.

Someone else can use your Blue Badge if you're in the car with them, for example if they are picking you up or dropping you off, and they need to park close to where you are going.

If you are travelling abroad, check if you can use your Blue Badge with an organisation such as a Tourist Information Centre in the country you are visiting.

You can apply for a Blue Badge at **www.mygov.scot/apply-blue-badge**, or by contacting your local council.

Challenging a decision

Redetermination

If you are unhappy with a decision made by Social Security Scotland about your Adult Disability Payment claim, you can ask for a **redetermination**. You need to do this within 6 weeks of the date on the decision letter. A redetermination form will be sent to you with the decision letter, but you can also make the request by telephone or online.

You can request a redetermination if:

- you have not been awarded Adult Disability Payment
- you are unhappy with the amount of Adult Disability Payment you have been awarded

When you ask for a redetermination, your application will be looked at again, by a different person within Social Security Scotland. They may agree with the original decision or change it.

If the redetermination is not carried out within 8 weeks of your request, or you receive a redetermination decision and you are still unhappy with it, you can **appeal** the decision.

Appeals

You can appeal a decision about Adult Disability Payment by telephone or by completing an appeal form and posting it to them. You need to do this within a month of the redetermination decision.

The appeal will be looked at by the First Tier Tribunal for Scotland, who may agree with the original decision or change it.

Call **Social Security Scotland** on **0800 182 2222** to complete the appeal form over the telephone, or to request a paper form. You should also receive an appeal form with your redetermination letter.



Short-term Assistance

If your award of Adult Disability Payment ends or reduces following a review, and you want to challenge the decision, you can apply for short-term assistance to cover the difference in payments. This means you will still receive the same amount overall.

You can apply at the same time as requesting a redetermination or an appeal, by contacting **Social Security Scotland** on **0800 182 2222**, or by completing the short-term assistance section of the redetermination or appeal form.

The short-term assistance doesn't have to be repaid even if your challenge is not successful.

Hospital stays and residential care

If you are in hospital for 28 days or more, both the daily living and mobility components of your Adult Disability Payment will stop. You should contact Social Security Scotland as soon as you are discharged from the hospital, so your payments can be restarted as soon as possible.

The daily living component of your Adult Disability Payment will stop after 28 days in publicly funded residential care. However, if you receive a mobility component, this can continue.

Have a benefit check if you or the person you provide care for are moving into a care home or expecting to spend a long period in hospital.

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How you can help

Our vision is a Scotland where everyone can love later life.

All the information and advice we provide is free and completely impartial and in helping people access their rights and entitlements, it can be life changing.

We are an ageing population and more people than ever are coming to us for support. You can help us be there for those that need us most.



Make a donation

No matter how small or large, donations make a massive difference and help us continue our important work.

- Call **03330 15 14 60**
- Visit **age.scot/donate**
- Text **LATERLIFE** to **70085** to donate £5.*



Fundraise

Whether it is having a bake sale, running a marathon or knitting small hats for the Big Knit, there are so many ways to raise vital funds to support our work. To find out more, call **0333 323 2400** or visit **age.scot/fundraise**.



Leave us a gift in your Will

By choosing to leave us a gift in your Will, you can help Age Scotland to continue being there for vulnerable older people in the years to come. To find out more, call **0333 323 2400** or visit **age.scot/legacy**.

* Texts cost £5 plus one standard rate message

Let's keep in touch



Sign up to our newsletter

Our regular newsletters by email contain details of our campaigns, services and how you can support our work.

Sign up today by visiting **age.scot/roundup**



Follow us on social media

Our social media channels are a great way to keep up to date with our work and issues that affect older people.



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Contact us:

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